GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1865
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
INDIA AND NEPAL
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the several projects to upgrade infrastructure for promotion of trade and transportation between India and Nepal are at various stages of implementation;

(b) if so, whether some of these projects are on the Indian side but mostly on the Nepalese side;

(c) if so, the details thereon and main reasons for delay in implementing these projects; and

(d) whether both the countries have agreed to take steps to complete all the projects within the stipulated period of time?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (d): The Government of India is considering taking up the following projects for upgrading infrastructure along the Indo-Nepal border:

(i) Integrated development of the selected border check-posts namely Jogbani-Biratnagar, Raxaul-Birgunj, Sunauli-Bhairahawa, Nepalganj-Nepalganj Road and Kakarbhitta-Panitanki.

(ii) Development of important link roads to Nepal on the Indian side of the border. In Phase-I, the following stretches would be covered:

Purnia-Araria-Jogbani;
Gorakhpur Sunauli;
Nepalganj Road-Nanpra-Baharaich; and
Raxaul-Motihari.

(iii) Construction of link roads connecting various towns and habitations falling between the India-Nepal border and the East-West Highway in Nepal, to the Highway.

(iv) Setting up of rail links between important border towns of India and Nepal. This would include:

Extension of the Katihar-Jogbani Line to Biratnagar in Nepal;
Extension of Gonda-Nepalganj Road line to Nepalganj in Nepal;
Extension of Anandnagar-Nautanwa line to Bhairahawa;
Construction of a BG line from New Jalpaiguri to Kakrabhitta (Nepal) via Panitanki and
Conversion of existing rail line from Jaynagar (India) to Bijalpura to Broad Gauge and extension of the same to Bardibas (all in Nepal).

Detailed Projects Reports in respect of these projects are under preparation. Project implementation would be undertaken after the finalization of Detailed Project Reports.